United Nations A/70/906–S/2016/473

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 May 2016
English
Original: Spanish

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 120
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 20 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a communication from the President of the Argentine Republic, Mr. Mauricio Macri, announcing the decision of the Argentine Government to nominate Ms. Susana Malcorra, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, for the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this communication, including Ms. Malcorra's biography and her vision statement on the Organization, circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Martín García Moritán
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 20 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Letter dated 18 May 2016 from the President of the Argentine Republic addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Further to the joint letter dated 15 December 2015 from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council, I have the honour to present the candidature of Ms. Susana Malcorra, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, for the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The United Nations faces great challenges, both within and outside the Organization, in an increasingly complex world. It is thus necessary to guarantee the promotion of solutions that address the three pillars of the Organization, namely peace and security, development, and human rights; to leverage the partnerships between Governments, the private sector and civil society; and to adopt a more global and comprehensive vision. The dual goals of prevention and sustainability must form the foundation for every agenda undertaken by the Organization.

Accordingly, my country is convinced of the importance of having a Secretary-General with the necessary skills, efficiency and integrity to lead the Organization at this crucial juncture.

Ms. Malcorra has had a professional career encompassing all sectors of society -- public, governmental and private — and she has served at the United Nations for more than a decade. As a result of all this experience, she is a candidate who is not only capable of offering creative solutions to new challenges, but also cognizant of the Organization's real ability to implement them.

In presenting this candidature, the Argentine Government is convinced that Ms. Malcorra's background and abilities amply qualify her to serve in the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations as successfully as she has served in all the positions she has held throughout her professional life.

A brief biography of Ms. Malcorra is attached for information (see appendix).

Appendix

Susana Malcorra

Biography

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic

Susana Malcorra is the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, having been appointed to that position on 10 December 2015. In this capacity, she directs the foreign affairs of Argentina, serves as the country's representative to foreign Governments and international organizations, and is responsible for the development and implementation of objectives and policies in fields of international concern, including global governance, human rights, the environment and the effort to counter transnational organized crime. Her duties include the promotion of international cooperation in all its forms, in particular through the Argentine Fund for Horizontal Cooperation, and the development of the international economic, commercial and cultural relations of the Argentine nation. Through the Secretariat for Worship, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship is also responsible for fostering fruitful ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and understanding. As Minister for Foreign Affairs, she has helped to enhance the international positioning of Argentina as a global player interested and engaged in worldwide issues and ready to cooperate with the international community in confronting new global challenges and threats.

Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Prior to assuming her present functions, she was appointed as Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in April 2012. In that capacity, she supported the Secretary-General in all aspects of his responsibilities and, on his behalf, oversaw a number of operational activities, including the operational response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa (2014-2015); the implementation of the Joint Mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the United Nations for the Elimination of the Chemical Weapons Programme of the Syrian Arab Republic (2013-2014); and the negotiations leading to the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region (2012-2013). As Chair of the Secretary-General's Management Committee, she played a key role at a time when a number of transformative management initiatives mandated by Member States were being developed and implemented.

Under-Secretary-General for Field Support

In May 2008, she was appointed by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as the first head of the newly created Department of Field Support, with responsibility for delivering dedicated administrative and logistical support to United Nations field operations. In that capacity, she was responsible for supporting more than 30 peacekeeping and special political missions worldwide, deploying and sustaining over 120,000 civilian, military and police personnel, many in remote and inhospitable locations in countries emerging from conflict. Under her leadership, the Department of Field Support embarked on a five-year transformation programme to improve the global management of United Nations field missions, which resulted in

both measurably improved support and significant cost efficiencies. During her first year at the helm of the Department of Field Support, she played a central role in shaping the proposal and the subsequent implementation of Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) establishing the United Nations logistical support package for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), the Organization's first logistical field support operation for an African Union peace operation.

Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme

Before joining the Department of Field Support, she served as Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme, overseeing daily emergency and humanitarian operations in more than 80 countries, with over 10,000 personnel. During the tsunami emergency in December 2004, she led the initial phase of the operational response and mustered resources in the areas of personnel, budget, finance, information, technology, telecommunications, administration and security to deal with the disaster.

Chief Executive Officer of Telecom Argentina and private-sector experience

Before turning her efforts to the spheres of humanitarian response, peace and security and United Nations mandates in general, she gained over 25 years of experience in the private sector. In 1979, she launched a 14-year career at IBM Argentina, including a stint at IBM headquarters in New York starting in 1986. In January 1993 she joined Telecom Argentina at a critical time when the telecommunications market was being expanded and privatized; she became Chief Executive Officer in 2001. During her tenure at Telecom Argentina she implemented particularly significant and transformative programmes such as the conversion of the State-owned telecommunications firm into a private-sector corporation with 15,000 employees, the deployment of state-of-the-art technology for a telecommunications network serving some 10 million customers, and the founding, start-up and management of the country's first cellular telecommunication services company.

Born in 1954, Ms. Malcorra earned a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Rosario in Argentina. She is married and has a son. In addition to her native Spanish, she is fluent in English and proficient in French, Italian and Portuguese. She is an avid football (soccer) fan.